

an air flow module that can direct a flow of air above the cornea of the patient;
a portable stand that supports said air flow module; and,
a control console that is coupled to said airflow module.

12. (Amended) A method for performing an ophthalmic procedure on a cornea of a patient, comprising:

directing a flow of air above the cornea;
creating a flap in the cornea;
moving the flap to expose a portion of the cornea;
ablating a portion of the exposed cornea with a laser beam; and,
moving the flap back onto the cornea.

The applicant is enclosing an edited version of the amended claims as an Appendix.

REMARKS

The Examiner has requested copies of missing documents recited in the IDS. The applicant is enclosing herein copies of the missing documents.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The applicant has amended the claims per the suggestion of the Examiner. The applicant therefore submits that the claims now comply with the second paragraph of §112.

The Examiner rejected claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kawesch. Independent claim 12 has been amended to recite directing a flow of air above the cornea. Kawesch clearly discloses a system that directs air onto the cornea to dry the flap. The applicant submits that Kawesch does not anticipate claims 12-14 because this reference does not disclose a direct flow of air above the cornea.